atus FE6106a (NOV 1 0 2008

#### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of	)
Diego BRITA et al.	)
Serial No. 10/537,079	) Art Unit <b>1793</b>
Filed June 1, 2005	) Examiner J. E. McDonough
For MAGNESIUM DICHLORIDE-BASED	)
ADDUCTS AND CATALYST COMPONENTS	<b>S</b> )
OBTAINED THEREFROM	)

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

#### TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Submitted herewith for filing in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office are the following:

Postcard

I Transmittal Letter

Status Request (2 pages)

Attachment A – (copy of documents mailed July 22, 2008) (34 pages)

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge the required fees, any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 08-2336, in relation to the above-identified application.

By

Respectfully submitted,

DIEGO BRITA ET A

Jarrod N. Raphael

Registration No. 55,566

Agent for Applicant

Basell USA Inc.
Delaware Corporate Center II
2 Righter Parkway, Suite 300
Wilmington, DE 19803

Date: November 7, 2008

legal/pto status request

FE 6106+6085 (US)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of	)
Diego BRITA et al.	)
Serial No. 10/537,079	) Art Unit 1793
Filed <b>June 1, 2005</b>	) Examiner J. E. McDonough
For MAGNESIUM DICHLORIDE-BASED ADDUCTS AND CATALYST COMPONENTS ORTAINED THEREFROM	) ) )

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

#### **STATUS REQUEST**

On July 22, 2008, Applicant mailed a petition under 37 CFR §1.181 regarding a request for a suspension of action under 37 CFR §1.103(c), or alternatively to rescind the finality of the Office Action mailed January 22, 2008, along with a Notice of Appeal, as well as a Response, Petition for Extension of Time, and other related documents, for which a duly stamped receipt acknowledgment card was received. A copy of the documents mailed on July 22, 2008 is attached herein as ATTACHMENT A. However, as of this writing, no further communication from the USPTO has been received regarding the above-captioned application, nor does the Public PAIR database indicate any further communication has been sent or any further action has been taken by the Office. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Office to inform Applicant of the status of the above-captioned application. Any correspondence regarding the same should be forwarded to the undersigned practitioner.

Respectfully submitted,

DIEGO BRITA ET

By Jarrod N. Raphael

Registration No. 55,566

Agent for Applicant

Basell USA Inc.
Delaware Corporate Center II
2 Righter Parkway, Suite 300
Wilmington, DE 19803

November 7, 2008

Agent's Telephone No.: 302-683-8176 Agent's Facsimile No.: 302-731-6408

Agent's E-mail: jarrod.raphael@lyondellbasell.com

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 223\3-1450 on November 7, 2008.

Signature

Date

The PTO date stamp hereon is in acknowled as a state on this date PTO received:

TRANSMITTAL LETTER (1 page)
PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME (2 pages) (in duplicate)
PETITION UNDER 37 CERD 18 (2 pages) (in duplicate)
RESPONSE (26 pages)
LETTER TRANSMITTING NOTICE OF APPEAL (2 pages) (in duplicate)

ATTACHMENT 1 – FORM PTO/SB/31 (1 page) ATTACHMENT 2 – COP OF FORM PTO/SB/31 filed 9/17/07 (1 page)

in reference to U.S. Patent Application of Diego BRITA et al., S.N. 10/537,079, filed June 1, 2005.

Apry Dkt No: FE 6106+6085 (US)

JUL 2 4 2008



In re patent application of	)
Diego BRITA et al.	
Serial No. 10/537,079	Art Unit 1793 SCANNER
Filed June 1, 2005	Examiner J. E. McDonough
For MAGNESIUM DICHLORIDE-BASED ADDUCTS AND CATALYST COMPONENTS OBTAINED THEREFROM	) ) )

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

#### TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Submitted herewith for filing in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Officeare the following:

- Postcard
- Petition for Extension of Time 2 pages) (in duplicate)
- Petition Under 37 CFR §1.181 (2 pages) (in duplicate)
- Response (26 pages)
- Letter Transmitting Notice of Appeal 2 pages) (in duplicate)
- Attachment 1 Form PTO/SB/31 (Notice of Appeal)
- Attachment 2 Copy of Form PTO/SB/31 (Notice of Appeal) filed September 17, 2007

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge the required fees, any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 082336, in relation to the above identified application.

By

Respectfully submitted,

DIEGO BRITA ET AL

Jarrod N. Raphael Registration No. 55,566

Agent for Applicant

Basell USA Inc.

Delaware Corporate Center II 2 Righter Parkway, Suite 300 Wilmington, DE 19803

Date: July 22, 2008

In re patent application of	)
Diego BRITA et al.	)
Serial No. 10/537,079	) Art Unit <b>1793</b>
Filed <b>June 1, 2005</b>	) ) Examiner J. E. McDonough
For MAGNESIUM DICHLORIDI ADDUCTS AND CATALYST OBTAINED THEREFROM	,

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

#### PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Please extend by three (3) months the time in which to respond to the Office Action mailed January 22, 2008, to which the period for reply was set at three months. Hence, an extension is courteously requested from April 22, 2008 to July 22, 2008.

Please charge the extension fee of \$1050.00 to Deposit Account No. 08-2336. For this reason, this Petition is submitted in duplicate. Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited to Deposit Account No. 08-2336.

Respectfully submitted,

DIEGO BRITA ET AL.

By Jarrod N. Raphael

Registration No. 55,566

Agent for Applicant

In re	e patent application of	)
Dieg	go BRITA et al.	) )
Seria	al No. 10/537,079	) Art Unit <b>1793</b>
Filed	l June 1, 2005	)  Examiner J. E. McDonough
For	MAGNESIUM DICHLORIDE-BASED	<i>)</i> )
	ADDUCTS AND CATALYST COMPONENTS	)
	OBTAINED THEREFROM	)

Mail Stop Petitions Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

### PETITION UNDER 37 CFR §1.181 REGARDING SUSPENSION OF ACTION UNDER 37 CFR §1.103(c)

On September 13, 2007, Applicant submitted a Response to the Final Office Action issued on March 13, 2007 in the instant application. On September 27, 2007, an Advisory Action was mailed by the Office stating Applicant's response failed to place the application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, on December 13, 2007, Applicant submitted a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 with a Response compliant with 37 CFR §1.111. In addition to Applicant's RCE, Applicant requested a suspension of action under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c) for a period of three (3) months. However, on January 22, 2008, forty (40) days after Applicant's RCE and request for suspension of action was filed, the Office issued a first action Final Office Action. Accordingly, since the issuance of the first action Final Office Action falls within the requested suspended time period, Applicant respectfully petitions the Office under 37 C.F.R. §1.181 to rescind the currently pending first action Final Office Action, and issue another Office Action with a new time period for response.

In re Application of: Diego BRITA, et al.

Serial No.: 10/537,079 Group Art Unit: 1793

Filed: June 1, 2005 Examiner: J.E. MCDONOUGH

Title: MAGNESIUM DICHLORIDE-BASED ADDUCTS AND CATALYST COMPONENTS OBTAINED THEREFROM

#### RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action bearing a mailing date of January 22, 2008. The three-month shortened statutory period to respond was set to expire on April 22, 2008. A petition for a three-month extension of time accompanies this response. As such, this response is timely filed.

In view of the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejections, and allow all claims pending in this application.

## 1. Previous Request for Continued Examination and Suspension of Action Under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c)

On September 13, 2007, Applicant submitted a Response in the instant application to the Final Office Action issued by the Office on March 13, 2007. On September 27, 2007, an Advisory Action was mailed by the Office stating Applicant's aforementioned response failed to place the application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, on December 13, 2007, Applicant submitted a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 with a Response. In addition to Applicant's RCE, Applicant requested a suspension of action under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c) for a period of three (3) months. However, on January 22, 2008, forty (40) days after Applicant's RCE was filed, the Office issued a first action Final Office Action. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully petitions the Office under 37 C.F.R. §1.181 to rescind the currently pending first action Final Office Action, and issue another Office Action with a new time period for response.

Notwithstanding, if the Office does not rescind the currently pending first action Final Office Action and issue another Office Action as petitioned herein by Applicant, Applicant respectfully traverses the finality of the Office Action issued January 22, 2008, and hereby petitions the Office to withdraw the finality of the aforementioned Office Action under 37 C.F.R. §1.181 pursuant to MPEP §706.07(c)-(d).

In light of the above, Applicant respectfully requests the Office to review the merits of Applicant's petition submitted herewith under 37 C.F.R. §1.181.

### 2. Rejection of Claims 1, 4-6, 8-13, and 19-30 Under 35 U.S.C. \$102(b):

With respect to claims 1, 4-6, 8-13, and 19-30 being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,034,025 (herein referred to as "Yang, et al."), Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

For a reference to anticipate an invention, all of the elements of that invention must be present in the reference. The test for anticipation under section 102 is whether each and every element as set forth in the claims is found, either expressly or inherently, in a single prior art reference. Verdegaal Bros. V. Union Oil Co. of California, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987); (Emphasis added). The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the claim. Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co., 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989); (Emphasis added). The elements must also be arranged as required by the claim. In re Bond, 15 USPQ2d 1566 (Fed. Cir. 1990).

Applicant respectfully believes the current rejection should be withdrawn given the Examiner's repeated acknowledgement in this Office Action, as well as previously issued Office Actions, that Yang, et al. fails to disclose each and every element of Applicant's currently pending claims, which is required by statue and legal

precedent to sustain a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b). In particular, on page 3, lines 4-15 of the current Office Action, the Examiner acknowledges,

. . . Yang et al does not explicitly state that his Lewis adduct is solid . . . and if the composition of the instant application is solid then it would be obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art that an identical composition from the reference would also be expected to be solid. . . .

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to vary the parameters of the catalyst such as the ratio of alcohol/Lewis base relative to magnesium to achieve a desired result. It is well-settled that optimizing a result effective variable is well within the expected ability of a person of ordinary skill in the subject art. In re Boesch, 617 F.2d 272, 205 USPQ 215 (CCPA 1980), In re Aller, 220 F.2d 454, 105 USPQ 233 (CCPA 1955). (Emphasis added)

First and foremost, since the Examiner acknowledges, "it would be obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art", Applicant respectfully believes the current rejection should be withdrawn given the Examiner is clearly using the wrong legal standard for anticipation. The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the claim. Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co., 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989); (Emphasis added). The elements must also be arranged as required by the claim. In re Bond, 15 USPQ2d 1566 (Fed. Cir. 1990). For this reason alone, Applicant respectfully believes the instant rejection should be withdrawn.

Notwithstanding, the Examiner has further repeatedly acknowledged in this Office Action, as well as previously issued

Office Actions, that Yang, et al. fails to disclose the same adducts as currently claimed by Applicant, insomuch that the adducts of Yang, et al. are not solid. Again, as outlined supra, the identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the claim. Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co., 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989); (Emphasis added). The elements must also be arranged as required by the claim. In re Bond, 15 USPQ2d 1566 (Fed. Cir. 1990).

Accordingly, in light of the above, Applicant respectfully believes the current rejection should be withdrawn.

### 3. Rejection of Claims 1, 4-6, 8-13, and 19-30 Under 35 U.S.C. \$102(b):

With respect to claims 1, 4-6, 8-13, and 19-30 being anticipated by U.S. Patent 4,829,034 (herein referred to as "Iiskolan, et al."), Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

As outlined supra, for a reference to anticipate an invention, all of the elements of that invention must be present in the reference. The test for anticipation under section 102 is whether each and every element as set forth in the claims is found, either expressly or inherently, in a single prior art reference. Verdegaal Bros. V. Union Oil Co. of California, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987); (Emphasis added). The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the claim. Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co., 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989); (Emphasis

added). The elements must also be arranged as required by the claim. In re Bond, 15 USPQ2d 1566 (Fed. Cir. 1990).

As with the anticipation rejection to Yang, et al. discussed above, Applicant respectfully believes the current rejection should be withdrawn given the Examiner's repeated acknowledgement in this Office Action, as well as previously issued Office Actions, that Iiskolan, et al. fails to disclose each and every element of Applicant's currently pending claims, which is required by statue and legal precedent to sustain a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b). In particular, on page 4, lines 6-15, of the current Office Action, the Examiner acknowledges,

per Mg . . . it would have been obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to vary the ratio of reagent within the stated range of feasibility.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to vary the parameters of the catalyst such as the ratio of alcohol/Lewis base relative to magnesium to achieve a desired result. It is well-settled that optimizing a result effective variable is well within the expected ability of a person of ordinary skill in the subject art. In re Boesch, 617 F.2d 272, 205 USPQ 215 (CCPA 1980), In re Aller, 220 F.2d 454, 105 USPQ 233 (CCPA 1955). (Emphasis added)

First and foremost, as with the anticipation rejection to Yang, et al., since the Examiner acknowledges, "it would be obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art", Applicant respectfully believes the rejection should be withdrawn given the Examiner is clearly using the wrong legal standard for anticipation. The

identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the claim. Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co., 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989); (Emphasis added). The elements must also be arranged as required by the claim. In re Bond, 15 USPQ2d 1566 (Fed. Cir. 1990). For this reason alone, Applicant respectfully believes the instant rejection should be withdrawn.

further repeatedly Examiner has Notwithstanding, the acknowledged in this Office Action, as well as previously issued Office Actions, that Iiskolan, et al. fails to disclose the same adducts as currently claimed by Applicant, insomuch that Iiskolan, et al. does not disclose adducts comprising from 0.5 to 2.5 of ROH. Again, as outlined supra, the identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the claim. Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co., 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989), (Emphasis The elements must also be arranged as required by the added). claim. In re Bond, 15 USPQ2d 1566 (Fed. Cir. 1990).

Accordingly, in light of the above, Applicant respectfully believes the current rejection should be withdrawn.

# 4. Rejection of Claims 1, 4-6, 8-13, and 19-30 Under 35 U.S.C. \$103(a)

With respect to claims 1, 4-6, 8-13, and 19-30 being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,034,025 (herein referred to as "Yang, et al."), Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

The U.S. Supreme Court in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 148 U.S.P.Q. 459 (1966) held that non-obviousness was determined under §103 by (1) determining the scope and content of the prior art; (2) ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue; (3) resolving the level of ordinary skill in the art; and, (4) inquiring as to any objective evidence of non-obviousness.

Accordingly, for the Examiner to establish a prima facie case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. See MPEP \$2142.

Arguments regarding Yang, et al. *supra*, as well as those in Applicant's previous responses of September 13, 2007 and January 3, 2007, are all incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.

As previously discussed in Applicant's aforementioned responses, Applicant respectfully believes Yang, et al. fails to disclose, teach, or suggest Applicant's current claimed solid Lewis adducts comprising  $MgCl_2$ , a Lewis base (LB) selected from the group consisting of ethers, ketones, and alkyl esters of  $C_1$ - $C_{10}$  aliphatic carboxylic acids, and an alcohol ROH, in which R is a  $C_1$ - $C_{15}$  hydrocarbon group optionally substituted with heteroatom containing

groups, which compounds are in molar ratios to each other defined by the following formula:  $MgCl_2(ROH)_m(LB)_n$  in which m ranges from 0.5 to 2.5, and n ranges from 0.07 to 6. See pages 2-9 in Applicant's response of September 13, 2007, as well as page 12, line 23 - page 15, line 3, in particular, page 14, line 22 - page 15, line 3, in Applicant's response of January 3, 2007.

In fact, as previously discussed in the aforementioned sections of Applicant's previous responses, Applicant respectfully believes Yang, et al., at the very least, fails to disclose, teach, or suggest Applicant's currently claimed adducts, wherein Applicant's currently claimed adducts are solid. In particular, the Examiner has asserted on page 2, line 16 - page 3, line 15 of the currently pending Office Action.

Yang et al. teaches a method of producing a catalyst for the polymerization of olefins. Whereby, magnesium halide is contacted in solution with a mixture of a cyclic ether and alcohols which can be further reacted with a titanium (group 4 metal) compound forming a solid precipitate (abstract), polymerization of  $\alpha$ -olefins (ethylene and propylene) (column 2, lines 42-44), methanol and ethanol as the alcohols and THF (tetrahydrofuran) as the cyclic ether having from 0.5-20 equivalents of alcohol and 0.5-20 equivalents of Lewis base (THF) per mole of magnesium compound (column 3, lines 45-64), reacting with an organoaluminum compound (column 6, lines 7-22), and exemplifies Magnesium chloride (MgCl<sub>2</sub>) (column 7, line 50).

Although, Yang et al does not explicitly state that his Lewis adduct is solid, however, his composition appears identical to that of the instant application and if the composition of the instant application is solid then it would be obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art that an identical composition from the reference would also be expected to be solid (again being in solution does not prevent a compound from being solid).

However, Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's assertions outlined above.

First and foremost, the Examiner contends in the current Office Action on page 2, lines 16-19,

Yang et al. teaches a method of producing a catalyst for the polymerization of olefins. Whereby, magnesium halide is contacted in solution with a mixture of a cyclic ether and alcohols which can be further reacted with a titanium (group 4 metal) compound forming a solid precipitate (abstract)...

However, the actual full abstract of Yang, et al. discloses,

A method for producing a catalyst for the polymerization or copolymerization of olefins is described. The method includes producing a magnesium compound solution by reacting a magnesium halide compound in the mixture of a cyclic ether and two alcohols with an organosilane compound. The magnesium compound solution may be reacted with a titanium halide compound such that precipitated solid components are formed. These precipitated solid components may be reacted with a titanium compound and an electron donor to produce the polymerization catalyst. (Emphasis added).

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully believes the abstract of Yang, et al., clearly discloses a method for producing a magnesium compound solution, and not solid Lewis adducts as currently claimed by Applicant.

Additionally, Applicant respectfully believes the point that Yang, et al. expressly and definitively discloses a method for producing a magnesium compound solution is clearly and expressly reiterated throughout Yang, et al. In particular, Yang, et al. clearly

states in several passages,

In step (i), the magnesium compound solution may be produced by dissolving the aforementioned magnesium halide compounds in a solvent of a mixture of two or more kinds of alcohol and cyclic ether either in the presence or absence of a hydrocarbon solvent. (Emphasis added).

. . . .

When producing a magnesium halide compound solution, a mixture of two or more kinds of alcohol and cyclic ether may be used as a solvent. By the use of such a mixed solvent, magnesium compounds may be more easily turned into a solution than by the use of any one single solvent. (Emphasis added).

. . . .

The entire alcohol mixture may all be used in **dissolving** the magnesium halide compound. Alternatively, a part of the alcohol mixture may be used in **dissolving** the magnesium compound, while the remaining part may be added to the magnesium **solution** obtained by **dissolving** the magnesium compound. (Emphasis added).

See col. 3, lines 31-35; col. 3, lines 44-48; and col. 3, line 65 - col. 4, line 3, in Yang, et al. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's contention on page 3, lines 4-9 of the current Office Action,

Although, Yang et al. does not explicitly state that his Lewis adduct is solid, however, his composition appears identical to that of the instant application and if the composition of the instant application is solid then it would be obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art that an identical composition from the reference would also be expected to be solid (again being in solution does not prevent a compound from being solid).

However, given the express disclosure of Yang, et al., some portions of which are highlighted *supra*, Applicant respectfully believes that

any Lewis adduct disclosed in Yang, et al. would not be "identical" to, or merely an obvious variation of, Applicant's currently claimed Lewis adducts, or at the very least, Applicant respectfully believes any Lewis adduct disclosed in Yang, et al. would not be "identical" to, or merely an obvious variation of, the **solid** Lewis adducts as currently claimed by Applicant.

Further, Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's assertion that, "again being in solution does not prevent a compound from being solid." However, Applicant respectfully believes given the express disclosure of Yanq, et al., one can only come to the conclusion that the magnesium compound solution disclosed in Yang, et al., and relied upon by the Examiner, is in fact a solution and However, if the Examiner maintains the current not a solid. rejection, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to provide Applicant with objective, factual evidence showing (i) the magnesium compound solution disclosed in Yang, et al. would in fact be "identical to that of the instant application", as asserted by the Examiner, and (ii) that the magnesium compound solution would in as currently claimed by Applicant. a **solid** adduct Therefore, for the reasons outlined supra, Applicant respectfully believes the current rejection should be withdrawn.

Notwithstanding all of the facts outlined above, Applicant still believes the Examiner has not established a *prima facie* case of obviousness. In particular, as outlined *supra*, to establish a

prima facie case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. See MPEP §2142. However, Applicant respectfully believes the Examiner has not satisfied each of the aforementioned criteria to establish a prima facie case of obviousness.

In fact, Applicant respectfully believes the Examiner has not demonstrated (i) how and where, by particularly pointing out by column and line, Yang, et al. discloses, teaches, or suggests each claim limitation outlined by Applicant's currently pending claims; (ii) why, if Yang, et al. does not expressly disclose, teach, or suggest each claim limitation outlined by Applicant's currently pending claims, one would have deviated from the express disclosure of Yang, et al. and modified Yang, et al. as suggested by the Examiner; and (iii) why one would have expected such a modification to succeed. However, this is the Examiner's initial burden in establishing a prima facie case of obviousness. See MPEP §2142 and §2143.

Moreover, Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's assertion on page 3, lines 10-15,

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill

in the art at the time the invention was made to vary the parameters of the catalyst such as the ratio of alcohol/Lewis base relative to magnesium to achieve a desired result. It is well-settled that optimizing a result effective variable is well within the expected ability of a person of ordinary skill in the subject art. In re Boesch, 617 F.2d 272, 205 USPQ 215 (CCPA 1980), In re Aller, 220 F.2d 454, 105 USPQ 233 (CCPA 1955).

However, Applicant respectfully believes the Examiner has not identified what, if any, result effective variable is being optimized in Applicant's currently pending claims, much less demonstrated with objective, factual evidence that whatever supposed result effective variable the Examiner is referring to, was so recognized as a result effective variable in the art. See In re Antonie, 559 F.2d 618, 195 USPQ 6 (CCPA 1977). Accordingly, if the Examiner maintains the current rejection and continues to rely on In re Boesch, 617 F.2d 272, 205 USPQ 215 (CCPA 1980), Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to identify, (i) what variable, or variables, in Applicant's currently pending claims the Examiner is asserting is a result effective variable, (ii) objective, factual evidence supporting the Examiner's assertion that the identified result effective variable, or variables, from (i) were in fact recognized in the art to be a result effective variable, and (iii) how the supposed result effective variable from (ii) is supposedly being optimized in Applicant's currently pending claims. See In re Boesch, 617 F.2d 272, 205 USPQ 215 (CCPA 1980), and In re Antonie, 559 F.2d 618, 195 USPQ 6 (CCPA 1977).

Furthermore, as outlined in Applicant's previous responses of

September 13, 2007 and January 3, 2007, in addition to not disclosing, teaching, or suggesting Applicant's currently claimed solid Lewis adducts, the currently claimed adducts unexpectedly have a higher activity than those disclosed in Yang, et al.

In particular, Applicant believes the activity of the catalyst components disclosed in Yang, et al. range from 1.6 - 5.2 Kg/g, with the catalysts of Yang, et al. having an average activity of 3.8 Kg/g. However, Applicant's currently claimed solid Lewis adducts unexpectedly have activities ranging from 9.3-107.6 Kg/g, with the average activity unexpectedly being 50.3 Kg/g. Accordingly, Applicant's currently claimed solid Lewis adducts have an average activity of more than 13 times the average activity of the catalysts of Yang, et al.

In light of the above, Applicant respectfully believes claims 1, 4-6, 8-13, and 19-30 are patentably distinct from Yang, et al. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the current rejection.

## 5. Rejection of Claims 1, 4-6, 8-13, and 19-30 Under 35 U.S.C. \$103(a)

With respect to claims 1, 4-6, 8-13, and 19-30 being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 4,829,034\* (herein referred to as

<sup>\*</sup> The Office Action states claims 1, 4-6, 8-13 and 19-30 are rejected as being unpatentable over Iiskolan, et al., USP 6,034,025. Applicant assumes the Examiner meant U.S. Patent 4,829,034. However, if this assumption is incorrect, the Examiner is respectfully requested to clarify the grounds of the instant rejection.

"Iiskolan, et al."), Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

The U.S. Supreme Court in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 148 U.S.P.Q. 459 (1966) held that non-obviousness was determined under \$103 by (1) determining the scope and content of the prior art; (2) ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue; (3) resolving the level of ordinary skill in the art; and, (4) inquiring as to any objective evidence of non-obviousness.

Accordingly, for the Examiner to establish a prima facie case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. See MPEP \$2142.

Arguments regarding Iiskolan, et al. *supra*, as well as those in Applicant's previous responses of September 13, 2007 and January 3, 2007, are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.

As previously discussed in Applicant's aforementioned responses, Applicant respectfully believes Iiskolan, et al. fails to disclose, teach, or suggest Applicant's currently claimed solid Lewis adducts comprising  $MgCl_2$ , a Lewis base (LB) selected from the group consisting of ethers, ketones, and alkyl esters of  $C_1$ - $C_{10}$  aliphatic carboxylic acids, and an alcohol ROH, in which R is a  $C_1$ - $C_{15}$ 

hydrocarbon group optionally substituted with heteroatom containing groups, which compounds are in molar ratios to each other defined by the following formula:  $MgCl_2(ROH)_m(LB)_n$  in which m ranges from 0.5 to 2.5, and n ranges from 0.07 to 6. See page 10, line 1 - page 17, line 20 in Applicant's response of September 13, 2007, as well as page 15, line 18 - page 19, line 12, in particular, page 18, line 14 - page 19, line 12, in Applicant's response of January 3, 2007.

In particular, as previously discussed in the aforementioned sections of Applicant's previous responses, Applicant respectfully believes Iiskolan, et al., at the very least, fails to disclose, teach, or suggest Applicant's currently claimed adducts, which comprise MgCl<sub>2</sub>, the particularly claimed Lewis base, and the particularly claimed alcohol, wherein the constituents, particularly the claimed alcohol (i.e., ROH), is in the particularly claimed ratio. In fact the Examiner acknowledges on page 4, line 6 of the current Office Action,

 $\cdot$  . . Iiskolan does not explicitly teach using 2.5 ROH per Mg. . .

To account for this deficiency in Iiskolan, et al., the Examiner asserts on page 4, lines 6-9,

. . . Iiskolan does disclose a range that encompasses 2.5 ROH per Mg, it would have been obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to vary the ratio of reagent within the stated range of feasibility. (Emphasis added)

However, as outlined in Applicant's responses of September 13, 2007

and January 3, 2007, Applicant respectfully believes the broad, general disclosure of Iiskolan, et al. does not anticipate or render obvious Applicant's currently claimed solid Lewis adducts. particular, in order to anticipate the claims, the claimed subject matter must be disclosed in the reference with specificity" to constitute an anticipation under the statue. Additionally, if the claims are directed to a narrow range, and the reference teaches a broad range, depending on the other facts of the case, it may be reasonable to conclude that the narrow range is not constitute "sufficient specificity" to disclosed with anticipation of the claims. See Atofina v. Great Lakes Chem. Corp, 441 F.3d 991, 999, 78 USPQ2d 1417, 1423, (Fed. Cir. 2006); and MPEP §2131.03 II. Therefore, in conjunction with Applicant's arguments in section 3 of this response, Applicant respectfully believes Iiskolan, et al. does not anticipate Applicant's currently claimed solid Lewis adducts.

As for obviousness, a determination of patentability under 35 U.S.C. §103 should be made upon the facts of the particular case in view of the totality of the circumstances. See In re Dillion, 919 F.2d 688, 692-93, 16 USPQ2d 1897, 1901 (Fed. Cir. 1990) (in banc). Use of per se rules by Office personnel is improper for determining whether claimed subject matter would have been obvious under 35 U.S.C. §103. See In re Brouwer, 77 F.3d 422, 425, 37 USPQ2d 1663, 1666 (Fed. Cir. 1996); In re Ochiai, 71 F.3d 1565, 1572, 37 USPQ2d 1127, 1133 (Fed. Cir. 1995); In re Baird, 16 F.3d 380, 382, 29

USPO2d 1550, 1552 (Fed. Cir. 1994). The fact that a claimed species or subgenus is encompassed by a prior art genus is not sufficient by itself to establish a prima facie case of obviousness. Also, the fact that a claimed compound may be encompassed by a disclosed generic formula does not by itself render that compound obvious. In re Baird, 16 F.3d 380, 382, 29 USPQ2d 1550, 1552 (Fed. Cir. 1994). See also In re Jones, 958 F.2d 347, 350, 21 USPQ2d 1941, 1943 (Fed. Cir. 1992); In re Deuel, 51 F.3d 1552, 1559, 34 USPQ2d 1210, 1215 (Fed. Cir. 1995). Accordingly, even if Iiskolan, et al. discloses a range that overlaps, or even encompasses Applicant's currently claimed alcohol range, which Applicant denies, that in and of itself not necessarily enough to anticipate or render obvious is Applicant's solid Lewis adducts. In fact, it is incumbent on the Examiner to show, absent Applicant's direct teaching, how and why the prior art discloses Applicant's currently claimed solid Lewis adducts with sufficient specificity to either anticipate, or render obvious the adducts. As such, since Applicant respectfully believes the Examiner has used the wrong legal standard for obviousness, Applicant respectfully believes the current rejection should be withdrawn.

Furthermore, Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's assertion on page 4, lines 7-9 of the current Office Action,

. . . it would have been obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to vary the ratio of reagent within the stated range of feasibility.

However, that which is "within the capabilities" of one of ordinary skill in the art, is not synonymous with obviousness. See Ex parte Levengood, 28 USPQ2d 1300, 1301 (BPAI 1993). Additionally, change for the sake of change is not what one of ordinary skill in the art seeks to do. "One of ordinary skill in the art follows conventional wisdom and does not innovate." Standard Oil Co. v. American Cyanamid Co., 227 USPQ 293, 297-98 (Fed. Cir. 1985); (Emphasis added). Accordingly, Applicant respectfully believes the Examiner has not established why one would have modified Iiskolan, et al. in an attempt to arrive at Applicant's currently claimed solid Lewis adducts, and why one would have had a reasonable expectation of success. However, this is the Examiner's initial burden to establish a prima facie case of obviousness. See MPEP §2142 and §2143. Therefore, since the current rejection falls short of this standard, Applicant respectfully believes the current rejection should be withdrawn.

Notwithstanding the above, Applicant is currently claiming solid Lewis adducts comprising, in part, a Lewis base (LB) selected from the group consisting of ethers, ketones, and alkyl esters of  $C_1$ - $C_{10}$  aliphatic carboxylic acids. With respect to the instant rejection, Applicant respectfully believes Iiskolan, et al., also fails to disclose, teach, or suggest Applicant's currently, specifically claimed Lewis base. Additionally, Applicant believes the Examiner has not accounted for this deficiency in Iiskolan, et al. However, as outlined supra, a determination of patentabilty

under 35 U.S.C. §103 should be made upon the facts of the particular case in view of the totality of the circumstances. See In re Dillion, 919 F.2d 688, 692-93, 16 USPQ2d 1897, 1901 (Fed. Cir. 1990) (in banc). Use of per se rules by Office personnel is improper for determining whether claimed subject matter would have been obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103. See In re Brouwer, 77 F.3d 422, 425, 37 USPQ2d 1663, 1666 (Fed. Cir. 1996); In re Ochiai, 71 F.3d 1565, 1572, 37 USPQ2d 1127, 1133 (Fed. Cir. 1995); In re Baird, 16 F.3d 380, 382, 29 USPQ2d 1550, 1552 (Fed. Cir. 1994). The fact that a claimed species or subgenus is encompassed by a prior art genus is not sufficient by itself to establish a prima facie case of obviousness. Also, the fact that a claimed compound may be encompassed by a disclosed generic formula does not by itself render that compound obvious. In re Baird, 16 F.3d 380, 382, 29 USPQ2d 1550, 1552 (Fed. Cir. 1994). See also In re Jones, 958 F.2d 347, 350, 21 USPQ2d 1941, 1943 (Fed. Cir. 1992); In re Deuel, 51 F.3d 1552, 1559, 34 Therefore, Applicant USPO2d 1210, 1215 (Fed. Cir. 1995). respectfully believes the Examiner has not established why one would have modified Iiskolan, et al. in an attempt to arrive at Applicant's currently claimed solid Lewis adducts comprising Applicant's currently claimed Lewis base, and why one would have a reasonable expectation of success. However, this is the Examiner's initial burden to establish a prima facie case of obviousness. MPEP §2142 and §2143. As such, Applicant respectfully believes the current rejection should be withdrawn.

Moreover, Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's assertion on page 4, lines 10-15 of the current Office Action,

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to vary the parameters of the catalyst such as the ratio of alcohol/Lewis base relative to magnesium to achieve a desired result. It is well-settled that optimizing a result effective variable is well within the expected ability of a person of ordinary skill in the subject art. In re Boesch, 617 F.2d 272, 205 USPQ 215 (CCPA 1980), In re Aller, 220 F.2d 454, 105 USPQ 233 (CCPA 1955).

However, as outlined supra with respect to Yang, et al., Applicant respectfully believes the Examiner has not identified what, if any, result effective variable is being optimized in Applicant's currently pending claims, much less demonstrated with objective, factual evidence that whatever supposed result effective variable the Examiner is referring to, was so recognized as a result effective variable in the art. See In re Antonie, 559 F.2d 618, 195 USPQ 6 (CCPA 1977). Accordingly, if the Examiner maintains the current rejection and continues to rely on In re Boesch, 617 F.2d 272, 205 USPQ 215 (CCPA 1980), Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to identify, (i) what variable, or variables, Applicant's currently pending claims the Examiner is asserting is a result effective variable, (ii) objective, factual evidence supporting the Examiner's assertion that the identified result effective variable, or variables, from (i) were in fact recognized in the art to be a result effective variable, and (iii) how the supposed result effective variable from (ii) is supposedly being

optimized in Applicant's currently pending claims. See *In re Boesch*, 617 F.2d 272, 205 USPQ 215 (CCPA 1980) and *In re Antonie*, 559 F.2d 618, 195 USPQ 6 (CCPA 1977).

Further, as outlined in Applicant's previous responses of September 13, 2007 and January 3, 2007, in addition to not disclosing, teaching, or suggesting Applicant's currently claimed solid Lewis adducts, the currently claimed adducts unexpectedly have a higher activity than those disclosed in Iiskolan, et al.

In particular, Applicant believes the activity of the catalyst components disclosed in Iiskolan, et al. range from 5.7 - 9.9 Kg/g (i.e., Kg of polymer produced per gram of catalyst used), with the catalyst components of Iiskolan, et al. having an average activity of 8.3 Kg/g. However, Applicant's currently claimed solid Lewis adducts unexpectedly have activities ranging from 9.3-107.6 Kg/g, with the average activity unexpectedly being 50.3 Kg/g. Accordingly, Applicant's currently claimed solid Lewis adducts have an average activity of more than 6 times the average activity of the catalyst components of Iiskolan, et al.

In light of the above, Applicant respectfully believes claims 1, 4-6, 8-13, and 19-30 are patentably distinct from Iiskolan, et al. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the current rejection.

#### 6. Rejection of Claims 14-17 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a):

With respect to claims 14-17 being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 4,829,034 (herein referred to as "Iiskolan, et al.") in view of U.S. Patent 6,034,025 (herein referred to as "Yang, et al."), Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

The U.S. Supreme Court in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 148 U.S.P.Q. 459 (1966) held that non-obviousness was determined under §103 by (1) determining the scope and content of the prior art; (2) ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue; (3) resolving the level of ordinary skill in the art; and, (4) inquiring as to any objective evidence of non-obviousness.

Accordingly, for the Examiner to establish a prima facie case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. See MPEP \$2142.

All arguments regarding Iiskolan, et al. and Yang, et al. *supra* are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety. Additionally, as outlined in Applicant's previous responses of September 13, 2007 and January 3, 2007, in addition to not

disclosing, teaching, or suggesting Applicant's currently claimed solid Lewis adducts, the currently claimed adducts unexpectedly have a higher activity than those disclosed in Iiskolan, et al. or Yang, et al.

In particular, Applicant believes the activity of the catalyst components disclosed in Iiskolan, et al. range from 5.7 - 9.9 Kg/g (i.e., Kg of polymer produced per gram of catalyst used), with the catalyst components of Iiskolan, et al. having an average activity of 8.3 Kg/g. The activity of the catalysts disclosed in Yang, et al. range from 1.6 - 5.2 Kg/g, with the catalysts of Yang, et al. having an average activity of 3.8 Kg/g. However, Applicant's currently claimed solid Lewis adducts unexpectedly have activities ranging from 9.3-107.6 Kg/g, with the average activity unexpectedly being 50.3 Kg/g. Accordingly, Applicant's currently claimed solid Lewis adducts have an average activity of more than 6 times the average activity of the catalyst components of Iiskolan, et al., and more than 13 times the average activity of the catalysts of Yang, et al.

In light of the above, claims 14-17 are believed to be non-obvious, and are patentably distinguishable over Iiskolan, et al. in view of Yang, et al. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

#### CONCLUSION

Based upon the above remarks, the presently claimed subject matter is believed to be novel and patentably distinguishable over the references of record. The Examiner is therefore respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw all rejections, and allow all pending claims 1, 4-6, 8-17, and 19-30. Favorable action with an early allowance of the claims pending in this application is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is welcomed to telephone the undersigned practioner if he has any questions or comments.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

Jarrod N. Raphael

Registration No. 55,566

Customer No. 34872

July 22 2008

Date: July 22, 2007

Basell USA Inc.

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Fax No.: 302-731-6408

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In re	patent application of	)
Dieg	go BRITA et al.	)
Seria	al No. <b>10/537,079</b>	) Art Unit 1 <b>793</b>
Filed	l June 1, 2005	)  Examiner J. E. McDonough
For	MAGNESIUM DICHLORIDE-BASED	) )
	ADDUCTS AND CATALYST COMPONENTS	)
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Sir:

#### LETTER TRANSMITTING NOTICE OF APPEAL

Applicant hereby submits a second Notice of Appeal for the instant application (Attachment 1). An initial Notice of Appeal was filed for this case on September 17, 2007, at which time the fee of \$500 was charged to Deposit Account 08-2336 (Attachment 2). Applicant respectfully requests the fee previously paid to be applied to the second Notice of Appeal, and hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge the difference of \$10 (i.e., the \$510 current fee minus the \$500 fee previously paid) to Deposit Account 08-2336. For this reason, this Petition is submitted in duplicate. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to debit or credit any payment due or any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-2336.

Respectfully submitted,

DIEGO BRITA ET A

Jarrod N. Raphael

Registration No. 55,566

Agent for Applicant

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July 22, 2008

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Agent's E-mail: jarrod.raphael@lyondellbasell.com

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 22, 2008.

y .

PTO/SB/31 (01-08)

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Applicant hereby appeals to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interference	s from the last o	decision of the exam	miner.
The fee feethir Nether of Association (OT OFP 44 00/1)/4/			. 10
The fee for this Notice of Appeal is (37 CFR 41.20(b)(1))	(\$5)	10 - \$500	previously paid)
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by half, and the resulting fee is:	0.00 0		\$
A check in the amount of the fee is enclosed.			
Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.			
The Director has already been authorized to charge fees in this application to a Deposit Account.  I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.			
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A petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) (PTO/SB/22) is enclosed.			
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I am the		1	
applicant/inventor.			Signature
assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71. Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96)	/=	Tarrod	N. Raphael
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attorney or agent of record.  Registration number			683-8176 hone number
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attorney or agent acting under 37 CFR 1.34.  Registration number if acting under 37 CFR 1.34.		July	22 2008
			Date
NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below*.			
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*Total of forms are submitted.			

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 41.31. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11, 1.14 and 41.6. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Docket Number (Optional) NOTICE OF APPEAL FROM THE EXAMINER TO FE 6106+6085 (US) THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES In re Application of I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with Diego BRITA et al sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Filed "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-Application Number 1450° [37 CFR 1.8(a)] June 1, 2005 10/537,079 September MAGNESIUM DICHLORIDE-BASED ADDUCTS AND CATALYST COMPONENTS OBTAINED THEREFROM Signature, **Art Unit** Examiner Typed or printed Jolene A Outten 1755 J. E. McDonough name Applicant hereby appeals to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences from the last decision of the examiner. 500 The fee for this Notice of Appeal is (37 CFR 41.20(b)(1)) Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. Therefore, the fee shown above is reduced by half, and the resulting fee is: A check in the amount of the fee is enclosed. Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached. The Director has already been authorized to charge fees in this application to a Deposit Account. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>08-2336</u> . I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet. | A petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) (PTO/SB/22) is enclosed. WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038. I am the applicant/inventor. Signature assignee of record of the entire interest. Jarrod N Raphael See 37 CFR 3.71. Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. Typed or printed name (Form PTO/SB/96) attorney or agent of record. 410-996-1750 55,566 Registration number Telephone number attorney or agent acting under 37 CFR 1.34. September 13, 2007 Registration number if acting under 37 CFR 1.34. Date NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below\*.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 41.31. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11, 1.14 and 41.6. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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